

Lazy Dungeon Master



Volume 14 - The Extra Arc

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Volume Fourteen - The Extra Arc

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A slave's morning started early—

However, in the cases where she was being used as a hug pillow, hers would start considerably late so that she would wake along with Kehma.

The first thing she would do in the morning is choose her socks. This choice was a very important matter. This was because the place most visible to Kehma, her Goshujin-sama, was the feet. Meat didn't understand what foot fetishism was that well, but if her esteemed Goshujin-sama desired it, she didn't mind going two or three days in the same socks without using [Cleanup] on them.

... Yesterday's were light blue striped socks that went up to her thighs, but today she went with white. She felt that striped ones were unpopular for some reason. It could only be explained as being Kehma's interests, but through Meat's experience, she believed that there was a somewhat higher chance of her being used as a hug pillow when she went with simpler, single-color socks.

"... Nn."

When putting on socks, the first thing to do was to gently flex them. She only wore underwear and socks overnight so as to not wrinkle the maid outfit that was her work uniform.

Once she had loosened up her body enough, she put on her maid clothes.

They were things she had received from her Goshujin-sama, a maid clothes golem. It provided support to Meat's actions, improving her kinematic performance... This was the same with the socks she put on a moment before, they were both also golems.

"... Nnnf."

Preparations complete, it was time to work. However, because Meat's room in the village chief's mansion was immediately neighboring the inn, there was zero commute time.

In the morning she would serve adventurers grabbing meals in the dining room.

The employees would take alternating shifts.

Meat generally wouldn't participate in the morning due to her duties as a hug pillow, but shift alterations were possible for cases like this. [Night Attendance Shift] (Ichika-Christened) was the thing Ichika came up with to refer to the shift with Kehma, but so far there hadn't been anything in it other than Meat's hug pillow duties.

However, the other employees weren't particularly dissatisfied. Rather, they simply urged their Meat-senpai on to work less and focus more on that.

Back on topic, the inn served sandwiches for breakfast. There was a bar nearby that would serve other dishes, but the sandwich was really popular due to how delicious it was. Them using white bread instead of cheap black bread was a well-known secret.

Meat ate a sandwich just before in preparation for customers.

"Fuwaaah, morning, Black-chan."

"Ah, good morning."

The first to wake up was the guild receptionist, Silia. Since her job was to handle the guild's reception desk, she needed to wake up earlier than the adventurers.

After confirming that no one was looking, she quietly placed her hand on Meat's heat and patted her.

"... Haaaaaah... I can keep on for another day now..."

"Really...?"

Although Meat didn't particularly enjoy it when anyone but her Goshujin-sama patted her head, she endured it for getting the tip. She saved up her tips to make her Goshujin-sama happy.

Receiving five copper as her tip, she brought her her sandwich. Entering the kitchen since Kinue wasn't there today, it was a simple task for her to open her [Storage] and take out a premade sandwich.

Although this made it so that they could be delivered fresh since the time inside [Storage] was stopped, because of Kehma's policy of saying that it would be troublesome in various ways if people knew about Meat being able to use [Storage], she would temporarily go into the kitchen.

After a while, the lodging adventurers woke up. Recently, because of Kehma's [Investigation], [Exploring as far as the labyrinth area is alright], so adventurers had been coming aiming for the iron golems.

It was also alright if they encountered any threats since they could escape. Although there were a lot of people that thought that, in truth, Meat felt that Rin would instantly kill them with its fangs. She wouldn't go out of her way to be friendly to other people though.

After finishing up with the adventurers' breakfast, Meat went to train herself. When she practiced golem operation and magic skills, she would do so in the dungeon, but she trained her fundamentals inside the village, in the outdoor hall. In particular, she held many mock battles with Ichika.

By showing themselves train in front of the villagers, it also held the meaning of serving as a warning for just how much fighting strength her Goshujin-sama held. She would never show all of her capability though, of course.

Flicking the kitchen knife Ichika held away, she pointed her knife at her neck. They were both wooden training items, things Kehma prepared for them in ten seconds.

"... Aww, I'm not even'a match for Meat-senpai anymooore." "Really?"

Ichika also wore the a maid clothes golem, the same as Meat. Since Ichika had already possessed the ability of being a C-Rank, it was even more advantageous than for Meat.

In truth, Ichika was stronger when they started training.

However, Meat was equal with her after two months and was even stronger than her nowadays.

The difference was their difference in ability to adjust to the golem's assistance. For Ichika, who had originally mastered her body's own style, she was only able to acquire the benefit of simply augmenting her physical strength. However, for Meat, who used golems since the beginning, she learned how to move with the golem and be moved by it.

She was able to defend against attacks that were in her blind spots through the golem's perception and was even able to use abnormal maneuvers to dodge arrows fired at her from behind through proper use of the assist.

Normally, whatever was inside the golem wouldn't last if it did such absurd movements, but it was adjusted according to the strength and recuperative power that beastkin had.

As a result, a small soldier that could freely use superhuman-levels of acrobatics was born.

"Ichika is still stronger, without the assist."

"For now."

Ichika felt that she would be surpassed even without the assist soon enough. Meat was talented. For Ichika, nurturing that talent was enjoyable. She would be lying if she said that she weren't a little envious, but even so, it wasn't a bad thing for Meat to become strong. Meat could defend Kehma's life if she was strong, so she herself would be able to eat tons of delicious things.

Meat kept training until around noon.

At noon, she served people in the dining room. Recently, they started serving lunch due to strong demands for it from inn guests and villagers.

It also served as cooking practice for Kinue recently, so it allowed people to eat delicious meals at moderate prices. Since leftovers could be served the following days due to [Storage], Kinue could prepare things without holding back.

Once the number of people in the room started dying down, Meat ate her lunch as well. Today's lunch was rice balls filled with mayo hamburg steak. It was something that Meat had asked for Kinue to make for her and had recently become Meat's favorite.

In particular, it was best when filled with the mayonnaise her Goshujin-sama developed. The meat and mayonnaise together were splendid.

Once she finished licking the remnants of her meal from her fingers, Meat headed to the reception desk.

She had receptionist duties in the afternoon. However, there wasn't anything in particular that needed to be done for reception work. To list some of the duties: putting money into the bank-like golem, trading meal tickets for money, and handing over room keys to guests.

For Meat, who could only calculate simple things, it was no problem by simply leaving it to the golem, so it was very easy.

Kehma named it the [Register Golem], but Meat only understood that it was something incredible.

To become strong, it was also necessary to rest. Therefore, when there weren't any guests around, she single-mindedly listened to the golem that had received a recording of her Goshujin-sama's [Create Golem] incantation.

For Meat, listening to her Goshujin-sama's voice was comforting. After all, being able to hear him any time she wanted, her Goshujin-sama that developed this golem really was a genius.

In addition, this golem's appearance was that of a shell that could be found in Pavuera. The kind that someone would say, "You can hear the sound of the sea in it."

She stored keys she received from departing adventurers in the register golem.

Once she put the keys onto the golem's key holder, it would sort them back to their original locations all on its own. It looked like it might get stuck sometimes, but something like that hadn't happened thus far.

"Ojou-chan, we'd like to stay the night."

"One night, fifty copper coins. It comes with a sandwich in the morning. Other meals come with additional fees."

A new group of guests arrived. They were a group of three male adventurers.

"Fifty copper!? An meals are excluded!? That's a ton, lower it."

"No."

"It's fine ain't it? Do it."

"If you aren't a guest, leave."

"Haahn!? There's no other lodging, this is the only one! This Asure-sama is lowering his head!"

He said that, but his head that should have been lowered was simply looking down on Meat. Judging that they weren't actually guests, Meat decided to remove the fake-guests.

She pressed a button that was on the desk. Immediately after, a clay golem armed with a wooden training sword that wore an arm band from the adventurer guild appeared.

"Aaahn? The heck's this clay golem doing? Cheeky bastard's holding a sword!"

Saying that, one of the fake-guests kicked the clay golem.

Apparently, these fake-guests either didn't have eyes or were slow in the head.

The receptionist woman—perhaps it was better to call her the branch head here—exchanged the arm band for cheap inn fees... it was something formally lent to then by the adventurer guild's branch head. Therefore, strictly speaking, the clay golems were to be treated as temporary staff members of the adventurer guild. That fact was generally something understood... but these fake-guests actually kicked the clay golem.

In other words, at this point, these fake-guests were fools that defied the adventurer guild—she could treat them as enemies and defeat them.

"Nn."

When Meat suddenly flew out from behind the reception desk, she seized the legs of the fake-guest that kicked down the golem and left the rest to the golem assist, flinging him away.

The fake-guests were each thrown out of the inn, rolling outside.

The three were surprised at the unbelievable strength that came from Meat's small body.

Meat then calmly walked out of the inn, a golem knife not meant for practice in her hand.

"Shit, Ritage, Dogokib! She can't take all three of us!"

Likely due to the blood rushing to his head, the three of them already looked like nothing but muggers. The number of adventurers like this weren't few.

Be that as it may, they had been foolish all the way until now. Right, the delinquents became adventurers for the IDs in order to borrow money. Out of money from paying the registration fees as well as running out of their borrowed money from spending it haphazardly, they came to the beginner dungeon that was making a name for itself as a place that can be used to earn money.

F-Ranks were allowed to enter the dungeon [Cave of Desires], so they doubted whether or not it was a place that could satisfy what they needed though... They knew about the clay golems, so they planned to stay until they hit E-Rank and earned enough money to somehow not be up to their necks in debt.

"... Grey rats are smarter."

"What's that!? Get her!"

The grey rats that were in the rat races were self-aware that what they were doing was entertainment, purposely creating lively races. They would even hold meetings about it the day before, they were very clever.

Although it was just something Meat muttered, the fake-guests just heard it as provocation.

She easily cut down the two clubs that were slowly coming at her from behind, rolling and kicking the legs of the two whose stances were destroyed.

"Too, easy."

Taking the opportunity, she threw the fake-guests again. This time, into the adventurer guild.

Immediately after that, Meat panicked a little: [Did I get someone else involved by throwing them in?] The slave's education had wound up becoming no-good since her master's training was inadequate.

For now, she went into the guild.

Inside were four adventurers who were guests at the inn, as well as the receptionist.

Meat bowed her head lightly.

"... Did I get you involved?"

"Ah, no. It's alright, Black-chan."

"Nn, good. Then, these ones are the usual fools... more than usual. They refused the arm band, so please take care of the rest."

Saying that much, Meat turned around and left the guild, heading back to the inn.

It should end with a stern warning. They might be forbidden from entering the dungeon for a while, or maybe have their qualifications revoked.

Meat sat at the reception desk again, listening to her Goshujin-sama's voice.

... There would occasionally be adventurers with bad heads only seeing Meat as a beastkin child and threaten her. She felt Ichika was better at handling reception, her shifts would end without anything in particular happening.

Thinking back on her reception work for the day while she was in the dining

room again for dinner time, she felt she'd rested a lot. She had to remember guests' faces and their order tickets, so it was good mental exercise.

Around that time, Kehma turned up in the dining room. He held a D-Rank meal ticket in his hand. Meat gave him a super express treatment and went to Kinue to receive the D-Rank meal set, carrying it to Kehma.

"Goshujin-sama."

"Nn. Meat? Good girl, you're doing great, amazing~"

Kehma said that while petting Meat's head. She unintentionally broke into a grin... no, Meat did her best to smile, but her facial expressions didn't work that well so her ears flapped and her tail wagged instead.

And she realized that his line of sight was accidentally glancing at her legs... she really wanted to immediately take her shoes off for her Goshujin-sama to look right now, but he didn't order it. So she endured. Her Goshujin-sama didn't have the hobby of admiring feet and legs in public.

"... Come to my room today."

"! Yes-!"

Rushing into the kitchen, she told Kinue: [Pillow!]

To that, Kinue replied: [Understood.]

With that her shift for the next morning became: [Night Attendance Shift]

Finishing her duties in a good mood, she purified her body in preparation for her task as a hug pillow.

What she had to pay particular attention to was only going as far as cleaning off the dust and grime from her body. Also, she didn't take off her shoes yet.

Taking off her maid clothes uniform, she gently wiped her body down with the onsen's hot water, changing into her pajamas... a soft one-piece dress. Meat was the kind of person to sleep in her underwear when she slept alone, but she properly put it on for her hug pillow duties. It might be a remnant from her old life, but Meat found that she couldn't calm down when she wore too much while going to sleep. However, it was another story altogether when it came to her being a hug pillow for Kehma... That, and according to Ichika, being shameless was no good.

After that, she headed to Kehma's room... and went to use the restroom on the way. Kehma's night started early and his morning started late. She obviously

didn't want to wet the bed, so she had to make sure that she wouldn't be attacked by the urge to urinate midway through the night.

Finishing using the restroom, the super prepared Meat took a deep breath in front of Kehma's room. Her heart always throbbed at this point.

Knocking, she entered the room. Kehma was already wrapped up in his futon.

Her Goshujin-sama repaired the dungeon and inn, cooked and did magic, researched golems, as well as did his duties as the village chief. His work was different from things like serving tables and waiting at reception that anyone could do, it was work that only her Goshujin-sama could do. He was very busy every day. She could only think of him as amazing and cool.

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"Nn, you're here"?... Nn..."
"Yes—"
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Meat took off her shoes. Kehma's private room was a Japanese-styled one with tatami mats. She had to take off her shoes when she entered the room. No, she had to show him her taking them off, the fruit of her day's efforts.

... Alright! He's looking at my feet while wrapped up in the futon!

Today, Meat showed off her charms while hoping to have her Goshujin-sama move on her with a [Meat (Ecchi)] meaning. She was having a few wicked thoughts.

From Kehma's point of view, he only saw her tail wagging back and forth and wondered why she was in such a good mood. He couldn't even begin to guess what she was thinking about.

As preparation for sleeping, she slowly took off her knee socks. Additionally, she planned on 'carelessly forgetting' them when going back to her room. Ichika said it would make Goshujin-sama overjoyed. In that case, she naturally decided to forget them.

... She also wanted to 'forget' her scent-infused underwear. She hadn't had a chance to until now though. It might have been better for her to just not wear them from the start, but her Goshujin-sama told her that she had to wear them properly.

"Excuse me."

Changing the comforter for one they used when sleeping together, she turned

off the lights and slipped in.

Then, she was hugged tightly by her Goshujin-sama. Her Goshujin-sama's heat was comfortable.

... While searching for a comfortable position, she made sure to not forget to rub against his body, as though marking him with her scent. She also had no choice but to roll up her sleep-wear one piece. It wasn't like she did it on purpose, wanting to feel her Goshujin-sama even a single layer of cloth closer. It was an accident. It couldn't be helped.

Meat smelled her Goshujin-sama's scent as she rubbed against him, it was irresistibly good. She had to stay awake as long as she could to enjoy it.

She confirmed that Kehma was asleep by his breathing.

... Her Goshujin-sama didn't make any moves on her this time either. Even though she seduced him by rubbing her legs on him, he just slept and exposed his sleeping face to her.

Meat moved her body just enough so that the sleeping Kehma wouldn't wake up, nibbling on him sweetly. This play-biting was a general display of affection for beastkin. The slave collar wouldn't react either, so there was no problem.

And then, after spending a considerable amount of time doing this play-biting, she felt satisfied and decided to sleep.

Let's work hard for Goshujin-sama tomorrow too! Then he might make a move on me!

She wished.

Chapter 145 - Extra: Hero Wataru and Rin

"What! A dangerous demon like that settled down? Leave it to me!"

I spoke to Wataru about Rin... I mean, I spoke to him about a demon that was becoming a threat.

When I consulted Haku-san about Rin the other day, she responded, "Well, I'll send Wataru. He should do well enough one way or another."

In truth, it wouldn't be weird for either side to come out on top in terms of ability, either would be delicious in death—that is, as far as Wataru's debt, it appears that Haku-san will pay it if he dies before he's paid it off. And now Hero Wataru readily accepted the commission.

I wonder if Rin can defeat the hero? This'll be a sight to see. Let's just sit back and watch as an unconcerned bystander.

*

Wataru quickly proceeded through the dungeon, easily reaching Rin's room.

"... And here we go."

When Wataru opened the door, he saw a black wolf waiting in an offensive stance.

[Garururu!]

"Ooh, looks strong... even stronger than a dragon I guess?"

What he was picking a fight against was Rin. It opened its mouth wide, trying to bite him.... however, Wataru slipped under and away, striking it hard from the side.

Rin flew towards the wall from the force of the blow and crashed into it. With a bang, it splattered into a black spot on the wall.

"... Just one hit? No, with that feeling, no way..."

As Wataru anticipated, Rin wasn't dead just yet. With a gurgling sound, the stain moved back into a single spot and retook the shape of a wolf.

"Geh, so it's a monster like that after all. A slime?"

[Gururu...! You won't, pass through!]

"Heeh, you can talk...? This is getting worse and worse... I don't want to fight."

Despite saying that, he drew the sword from its sheathe at his hip. His opponent was already baring its fangs, so if he didn't also prepare himself, it was quite possible that he'd be finished off quickly.

He casually accepted the commission, but that might've been a mistake—is the kind of expression that appeared on his face.

[Garururu! ... Oh fire, burn brightly and burst—[Fire Bomb]!] "Uwaaah!? Wai—I didn't hear anything about magic!?"

Wataru used his sword against the fire bomb Rin launched towards him. The fire bomb split straight in half, exploding behind Wataru.

[Hoh, nice.]

"Aah, that surprised me! Yep, got it. Let's talk! If you can talk, let's do that!" [Mu? Alright.]

"Eh, seriously? Ah, no, yeah, it's good that you want to talk."

Wataru wasn't able to hide his surprise and blurted out that first bit.

In the end, he wasn't willing to kill enemies that could speak even if they were monsters. It was a different story entirely if they were ones that killed for pleasure though.

Although Rin had caused there to be victims, he put that aside for now. To start with, adventurers dove into dungeons with the resolution to die, so falling victim to the dungeon didn't really count.

He hadn't heard of any victims outside of the dungeon either. Therefore, Wataru decided that it was worth attempting to negotiate.

[Then, I'll eat you first, so hold still.]

"Ah, sure—what!? Eat me first!?"

[First is, eating, then talking.]

"You want to talk with someone in your stomach!? That's killing them!"

[No? So far, I've talked, with two people, after eating them.]

It had met with two people that could talk with it after being eaten? Wataru was surprised.

Though in truth, one of them was a golem and Rin didn't distinguish between

that and humans.

[And so, eating now.]

"Wha—!? Time out, time out! Can't be helped, I'll share my bento's sandwiches with you, please endure it with just that."

[Sandwitch? What's that?]

"... Fufufu, it's the breakfast from the inn that's right outside this dungeon's entrance. I had them wrap it for my lunch! It's a really delicious sandwich that uses white bread, and the deciding flavor in it's the mayonnaise!"

[Got it. Give it, I'll eat it.]

It looked as though Wataru caught Rin's interest, as it moved its foreleg as though to urge him on.

"[Storage]... ah, here. I'll put it on this plate, and leave it here, alright?" [Umu.]

Placing the sandwich on a white plate, he placed it in the center of the room. After Wataru moved away from it, Rin approached it and—after giving it a big whiff—swalled the plate in one gulp.

"Wai—! That plate was my favorite... w-well, it's alright, I still have four others. I got them from this dungeon..."

[Hoh, that sandwitch, thing, was good. Smooth, and crunchy.]

"... Are you talking about the cucumber? Umm, I have more, did you want more?"

[Give it.]

He decided to use a wooden plate to serve the food this time. Taking out another sandwich, he put it on the wooden plate and placed that on the floor.

[Oi. It's different, from before! Garururu!]

"... It was that!? The delicious thing was that? The plate!? Damn, alright, here!"

Wataru only took out a white plate this time.

... He got them as a set of five from the treasure chest, so he had three more left.

[Mu? This time, there's nothing, on top?]

"You want to deprive me of those too!? No, it's alright. Here, a sandwich. On

the plate."

When Wataru took out another sandwich to go with the plate, Rin once again ate it all in a single bite.

[Umu. Om, nom... nom, nom... hmph. Sandwitch, good. But, the top thing, not needed, after all.]

"Damn it! Give me back my lunch! And the thing on top is the sandwich, that bottom part is the plate!"

[Kuku, it's pretty, good. Alright, we'll talk. One more, first. Give it.] "Yay thank you! Damn iiiiit!"

Incidentally, Wataru's unique skill for being a hero, [Super Luck: Lv 1] went into full effect for no reason in particular. He didn't understand exactly how it happened, but it somehow turned into them having a drinking party together. He wound up falling asleep in the room, but didn't catch a cold since the heating was doing its job.

*

"And well, that's how we somehow hit it off."

"Oi, Hero-sama? You're saying that you're going to head back without defeating the monster?"

He was going to return nonchalantly. Rin was still safely protecting its room. Rather, you reek of alcohol, use [Cleanup], oi.

Raaather, didn't you say that you'd quit drinking until you paid back your debt?

"No no no, I'm obviously not just going to go home! I got a promise!"

"A promise?"

"Even if it encounters people, it won't kill them if they just hand it a white plate!"

Hero Wataru looked like he just solved a case. I want to punch him.

But it's not a bad promise. If Rin said it was a promise, it'd probably keep it. It'll be fine so long as it doesn't carelessly forget about it this time.

... Let's raise the selling price of those white plates. Is the purchase price fine as is?

"Ah, it also seems like it'll let people go half-dead even if it's a plate that isn't

white!"

"Eeh... so, can you trust it?"

"I think so?"

"On what grounds?"

"Intuition... I guess? Well, I don't think that that wolf's a fundamentally bad monster.

He probably wasn't wrong in saying that, but it is irritating for me. But as the village chief and as an adventurer, it's not the time for me to quip about it.

"... So, what if someone wants to go farther into the dungeon?"

"Ah—"

"Not "Ah", idiot hero!"

"No, but...! It'll be leaving when spring arrive! Be patient until then!"

This guy, he got that much information from it?

In the end, Rin was somehow or another not exterminated by the hero. He couldn't get the commission's completion reward, but I gave him five white plates as a reward for the beneficial information.

He was happy because all of the ones he'd had had gotten eaten, so well, it's all good.

Chapter 146 - Extra: Rokuko's Ring and Haku Raverio

Good morning! It's Rokuko!

Today, I, a dungeon core, am working the reception desk!

Since that saintess was coming here aaaaall the time lately, I wasn't able to come to the inn for safety reasons. Really, Kehma's a worry wart! But... that just means he thinks of me as important... it's not unpleasant you know?

When I sat down at the reception desk and dangled my feet, Haku Ane-sama turned up for some reason. Chloe's with her as usual, too.

"Haku Ane-sama! It's been a while!"

"Fufufu, hello, Rokuko-chan. Is the suite open? I'd like to stay the night."

"It's open! Oh, do you want the usual to eat?"

"Yes, will Rokuko-chan eat with me? It'll be my treat."

Kehma's sleeping, but it's the first time Haku Ane-sama's come over in a while, so I have to give her reception my all! Ummm, I think Kehma used [Cleanup] on the suite after the saintess left, so it should be alright.

Haku Ane-sama tilted her head when she saw the box sitting on the reception counter.

"... What is this box? It wasn't here last time I came, was it?"

"Nn? This? Fu fu fu... this box is called a register!"

"Heeh, what kind of box is that?"

"Mmm... Suite, two people, one night! Meal, three S-Rank meals!"

Reacting to my words, it spun around like the slots do and showed the cost. Sixty-five gold coins. That's probably right... it is right, right?

"And that's how we calculate costs, it gives meal tickets and keys when we put money in!"

"Heeeh! That sounds convenient. Does it ever miscalculate?"

"It's more reliable than leaving it to people."

"... I want one of these. My duties would go faster with one of these and I'd be

able to visit more often."

Haku Ane-sama's looking at the register earnestly. Only dungeon cores can be this cool, she's so stylish!

"Nnn, I'll ask Kehma if I can sell Haku Ane-sama one."

"Oh? Even without asking Kehma-san, couldn't Rokuko-chan do it on your own judgment? Also, where is Kehma-san exactly? Making Rokuko-chan work on her own..."

"Kehma completed a huge job, so he said he'll be sleeping until tomorrow."

I feel bad for Haku Ane-sama, but Kehma needs to rest. Well, he said he'll wake up tomorrow so it's alright, I think... He'll wake up, right?

"Hmph. Well, if Rokuko-chan says so, it's alright. It's been so long since we last talked, so how about we use the whole day to catch up?"

"That'd be amazing!"

Receiving the sixty-five gold from Chloe and storing it in the register, their suite room key and three meal tickets came out.

I went to the suite together with Haku Ane-sama. Ah, I did remember to find a replacement for the reception desk you know?

"... So, I've been wondering for a while now, but that's the ring you received from Kehma-san, correct?"

"Fueh? What? Haku Ane-sama, how'd you know?"

"... I heard about it from Hero Wataru. That guy did something really unnecessary..."

Oooh, I see! That Debt Hero huh. Come to think of it, I asked Wataru things too, didn't!

"Though really, that ring is in strangely good taste considering it came from Kehma-san. It fits Rokuko-chan well... Un? That ring, isn't it strange?"

"Eh? Strange? What is?"

"... I thought it was a gemstone ring, but there's a metal ring inside it... This is the first time I've seen a ring like that. It looks quite expensive."

"Fufufu, well, I'm his partner!"

"Right, for him to hand you a ring with such spirit within it... fufufu, shall we discuss it thoroughly?"

It feels like there's a black aura coming from Haku Ane-sama for some reason... I'm definitely just imagining it.

Right?

"Hey, that ring, what materials went into it?"

"Ummm, I think he said ruby and orichalcum?"

"Heeh, ruby and orichalcum huh... ... An orichalcum ring? Moreover, within ruby...? Wait a sec, that's a treasure worth tens of millions of DP!"

"He did say it was expensive after all... but it was that much?"

"Can you see orichalcum rings in the catalog? Well, even if orichalcum could somehow be harvested in this mountain, it should still be expensive."

As she said, I looked in the DP catalog for [Orichalcum Ring]... Mmm, decoration treasure category, orichalcum... 1,000,000 DP?

"It says 1,000,000 DP..."

"Yeah. The method of processing orichalcum is a dwarven secret, it takes so much time to process that even dwarves need a year to make an orichalcum sword. Although it should be more simple to make a ring, I feel that is a proper amount of DP for it."

"Ooo..."

When did Kehma get the chance to prepare the ring? Ah, but looking at the materials it looks like it's just 10,000 DP. Our village's blacksmith is a dwarf too, so did he ask him...? Ah, it'd be [Create Golem] for Kehma though wouldn't it? Since there's ruby too it feels like I'm not wrong.

Mmm, I can't say that to Haku Ane-sama though!

"Ah, come to think of it, this village has a dwarf blacksmith. Maybe he asked him?"

"... Even so, I can't figure out how it was buried inside ruby."

So that was it after all... Uu, it's so hard not telling her! I think it'd be better to tell Haku Ane-sama more, but I absolutely can't tell her about [Create Golem]!

"That ring, would you give it to me for 100,000,000 DP?"

"... ... Wha—!? N-no! Not this!"

Dangerous, my heart swayed a little there. 100,000,000 DP would be enough to summon an ancient dragon, I couldn't help it!

But Kehma could easily prepare a few more of these rings, so it would be an easy way to get 100,000,000 DP from Haku Ane-sama.

"... That man, I have to purge him after all, don't I...?"

"Excuse me, Haku Ane-sama? Umm, s-something's leaking out."

"Oh, sorry. Ufufufu."

Haku Ane-sama who smiles so gracefully, what are you angry about? ... Ahh, maybe you're thinking it's wasted money? Well, it didn't really cost that much to get though.

After that, we talked about the saintess and Rin, as well as the game room. It seems that the effects of [Treaty] changes depending on the person who uses it too.

Other than that, I welcomed her with all I had and took a bath together, ate lunch together, slept together, and when I invited her into my room in the village chief's mansion, Kehma woke up.

And now he's on the ground prostrating to Haku Ane-sama. He looks so natural doing it.

... Un, that was a beautiful dogeza! Full marks on pitiability and resolution!

Ah, it looks like she'll forgive him for something with him giving her a register? I don't get what's going on, but as expected of Kehma!

Chapter 147 - Extra: Ichika and the Bar's Slots

30 DP a day or thirty copper coins. That's the [Dancing Doll's Pavilion]'s wages for employees. Also, food and board are free. In other words, wages were free to use however they wanted.

Considering that it was fifty copper a night without meals and that it's equal to or a bit higher than the [Dancing Doll's Pavilion]'s standard, it was a pretty great job.

"Aaaalright, I'll definitely win today and eat a mountain of curry bread!"

Ichika pumped herself up as she headed to the bar today. She held the day's wages, thirty copper coins, in her hand. For someone who'd spend all their money overnight like Ichika, it was everything she owned.

Her aim was the bar's slots.

"Heeey, is my beloved Slot-chan ready~!?"

"Ohhh, Ichika-san. Welcome back, your usual seat's ready to go."

"Thanks! Nooow then, today'll be a win...!"

Welcomed by Wozuma, the bar's master, she headed to the second slot machine from the farthest back out of the six in total. The three ones farthest in were the kind that would take between one to three copper per go and—depending on the amount someone puts in—would increase the number of hit lines, starting with [Just the center row], then [an additional two rows above and below], followed by [an additional two columns on the sides]. [1]

The seat second from the back was completely reserved for Ichika's use, so Wozuma would quietly make sure it was open and ready for use as the end of Ichika's shifts approached.

Ka-chink. Ka-chink. Ka-chink.

Putting in three copper, she pulled the slot's lever. The drum spun with a machine-like sound and....

"I can do it...! Haaaaaaah!"

```
Bang!
Pow!
Boom!
Pushing the buttons with all her might, the designs stopped moving to reveal...
a loss.
  "Kuh! Nine more tries... haaaaah!"
 She put more money in, pulling the lever once again.
... A loss.
Even so, Ichika didn't give up. She had enough of her wage left for eight more
tries.
  "Phew... but ya won't see me run away! Do iiit!
"Oh, Ichika huh? You're still doing that eh."
"Mu? What's up Gozoh? Talkin' to me to break my focus?"
"Gahaha! Sure why not? So, how's it, any wins today?"
"Nn? Nah... I can do it, I just know it!"
 While saying that, Ichika got another loss.
 "No good huh?"
"Dummy, take a good look! See here!? The right slipped down a bit yeah? This
is a sign that the next will be a win!"
"Really? Rather, there was something like that?"
"Well, let's gooo... now!"
 And then Ichika received another defeat.
Gozoh's vision was piercing her. However, Ichika grinned.
 "... Fufu, don't be so quick, Gozoh. This's the flow for a jackpot."
"Jackpot?"
"When there's a loss after that slip, the pattern's that after five times... nine
times outa ten, there'll be a jackpot!"
"Heeh, hurry up and spin it."
"Hmm, well, watch closely!"
 Ka-chink, bling, bling, bling.
Ka-chink, bling, bling, bling.
Ka-chink, bling, bling, bling.
```

She got three more losses.

"Two more huh?"

"I-it's not something to get impatient for y'know?"

Ka-chink, bling, bling, bling... another loss.

"G-gunununu...!"

"Alright, if the next one's a win, I'll buy ya some karaage." [2]

"What'd ya say!? Just watch! Let's do iiit!"

Ka-chink... bling, bling...

"O-oooh! Look, look! There's two 's lined up in the center!"

"Oh, it's workin'? Now's the last one, then?"

"Give it my all...! Give it my all...! Now!"

Bling.

A appeared, moving into position, then... a loss.

"Guaaaah!? Nooooo!"

"Ga ha ha ha! Knew it."

"Gunununu, dangit..."

Ka-chink, bling, bling, bling.... Ichika pressed the buttons as though she'd lost her spirit.

... A set of cherries lined up, kaching! The slots' bells rang, signifying a win.

"Oooh, Gozoh, I won! Karaage!"

"Won nine huh? Nice. Bein' just one try off would've sucked, I'll give ya just one."

"Oooh, thank ya~"

She won nine as it was a x3 multiplier win for the slot machine. It was a win that was at least better than nothing at all. It appeared around two out of every ten uses.

Gozoh carried a single karaage stabbed with a toothpick Ichika's mouth as she was still glued to the slot machine.

Nom nom. Omnom.

While savoring the entire karaage, Ichika spun the slot machine again.

... In the end, she wound up spending everything she owned on the slots today

as well.

"Kuuh, today was a bad today! Let's head back~... haaah..."
"Aye, ya did your best!"

Depressed, Ichika left the bar.

... Immediately after that, at the slot machine second from the back—the one Ichika was just sitting at, there was an argument.

"Hey, move aside. You're in my way!"

"No way, you won yesterday, but today's my turn!"

"Oi oi, I waited enough, shove off! Today'll be my win!"

After Ichika uses it, it'll have a fifty percent chance of winning.

That rumor somehow spread amongst the regular customers.

"Aah, you're all doing great, aren't you?"

"Nn? Roppu, you're going to give it a shot?"

Gozoh headed over to the table that his partner Roppu sat down at, drinking a swig of alcohol.

"Don't say something so foolish, Gozoh. I don't believe in that rumor."

"Heeh? Why not?"

"Because of that rumor's origin... it came from Kehma-san right? The first to go after Ichika would be the first to win—how'd it go again?"

"The person to go after Ichika will get her winnings, I think? Well, it's that kind of feeling at least."

After that, the rapid rumors of [Easy Winning] [Big Jackpots] [Someone Actually Won It] [I won!] had recently settled down into [50% Chance to Win].

In truth, the seat that Ichika used was such a popular one that it was kept spinning until it won.

If it kept on being spun, it'd have to win at some point. The more the spins, the more often there'd be a win, so it really was a seat that won a lot.

.... There were many losses as well, but the race of people known as gamblers didn't pay attention to something as inconvenient as that.

Because of that, along with the rumor, that slot machine was particularly popular.

"... Well, those guys like gambling a lot after all."

"I wonder if it's because they're adventurers?"

Gozoh shrugged his shoulders as though to say that they're pretty similar.

"Boooyah! I won!"

"Hurry up and switch out with me!"

"Kukuku, I can't give my seat up now!"

And so, that day had yet another boisterous night inside the bar.

Chapter 148 - Extra: A Normal Villager Adventurer's Day Off

Yo! My name's Nanmo. I'm an adventurer!

Eh? I'm just a villager 'cause of my simple clothes? Good job noticing.

I'm a resident in this Golen Village!

The village made in front of [Cave of Desires], Golen. Well, it's only just got its name recently.

Looks like there's some super strong wolf demon appearing recently, but thanks to Hero-sama I just dive into the dungeon every day with a plate charm!

Well, today's my day off since I hunted an iron golem yesterday. If I can get a single iron golem, I can take a few days off without having to do anything. That's even after splitting it with my partner, Ian!

Although I take the iron golems to Dyne-san's shop rather than straight to the guild for them to buy it, it's a pretty delicious trophy that turns into fifteen silver each. Still, it's crazy heavy since it's just a lump of iron so I gotta be careful.

I don't even have to pay inn fees since I have something of a house that Kusan built. It's a bit cold though.

There's no fireplace, but I can make a fire inside the house so I can get by. I'm obviously careful with the fire though!

Well, the village chief let's us use the onsen to save on fuel costs, so I don't need to spend as much money here compared to when I lived in Sia.

Now then, breakfast today's going to be some cheap bread. It's an item made with the inn's hearth, using the village's reserved wheat flour. It's cheap and low quality wheat, but it feels as though it tastes like first-rate stuff since Kinuesan makes it. Chomp... hard. Ah, it's hard from getting cold huh. Yep, well, whatever. It's bread that Kinue-san made! Delicious!

Maaan, having a good cook is great isn't it. Kinue-san's beautiful too. With her somewhat transient atmosphere making me think she's some sort of sprite, mmm, I want to marry her.

Yep, how 'bout I go to the inn today? Maybe I should get her a present sold at Dyne's business? Rather, they have a ton of stocked accessories there don't they... wonder why.

Well, because of that I went for one of this dungeon's special products at Dyne's business, an iron golem iron ring. Iron golems sell for fifteen silver, so the fifty copper it cost for the ring was a pretty excessive thing for them to charge, but I bought it anyway.

Now then, the one at reception today is...! Ah, it's Nerune-chan!

Nerune-chan looks a bit simple compared to Rei-san and Kinue-chan at first glace, but she's amazing when it comes to magic. Unexpectedly, Nerune-chan's somehow managed to wholesale light magic tools to Dyne's business. She's almost definitely an apprentice alchemist huh.

Though it's not to the point of being a dungeon town, the village was built right in front of the dungeon, so since it's pretty cheap to get upper quality magic stones, there's a lot of craftsmen that need magic stones using this area as a place to practice. That's why this dungeon-located village has a ton of cheap magic tools that doesn't really match the village's scale.

Oops! My train of thought went a bit off track there, haha. Well, whatever I wanted to say, I'd also like to marry Nerune-chan. An alchemist wife that supports her adventurer husband, doesn't that sound great?

"Yo, Nerune-chan, the weather's great today isn't it?"

"Welcome". Eeeh", is it"? Are you going to stay"?"

"Nah, I'm going to head into the onsen though!"

"Just the onsen huh", it's free for villagers", but for everyone else it's ten copper"

"No, I'm a villager! Here's my villager card!"

I showed her the iron tag that was the proof of me being a villager. They're something that the village chief had Kantra-san, the village blacksmith, make. Each one has an individual name and number on it. I'm the eighteenth, isn't that a great number? Eh? What'd I say? Hahah, I said it's a good number, a good number!

Even so, it's Nerune-chan; I've been here a ton of times show she knows my disposition and always jokes around. See, we're just like ten steps away from

the proposal now huh?

Fufufu, being a popular man is hard!

"Ah~, right. I verified it~. Here you go~"

"Yep, thanks. How about coming over to my place tonight?"

"Ah", I can't do something like that"

I headed off to the onsen while being seen off by Nerune-san in regret.

There were other villagers in the onsen as well. Ooh, if it isn't villager number one, Gozoh-san! You brought alcohol! What amazing muscles! Definitely a dwarf!

"Oh? Yanmo huh, you're taking a break today too?"

"Yeah, I hunted an iron golem yesterday."

"Hoh, how many'd you hunt, around three?"

"One with my partner. How about you, Gozoh-san?"

"Aah, I hunted five day before yesterday with Roppu and Kehma."

Five with three people... fifteen silver times five... umm, fifty silver?

"Seventy-five silver, twenty-five each."

"Ah, yeah, I knew you know? It's common sense, common sense."

"That so? So Yanmo can do math huh. I just leave stuff like that to Roppu."

Yeah, I felt like Gozoh-san was like that.

But twenty-five silver huh, so that's how he can drink alcohol all day; he earns that much money.

... Rather, he said Kehma like it was nothing, but that's the village chief you know?

The village chief was an adventurer? I had no idea.

"Between you and me, it's easier to find iron golems when you go in with Kehma. Seriously, Kehma has a great nose for 'em."

"Eh, the village chief has a good nose? Did iron golems have a scent??"

"You an idiot? Saying someone has a good nose doesn't just mean that their sense of smell is better!"

"Heeh! That's good to know. I'll tell Ian about that later."

"Aye... ah, want a swig?"

"Definitely!"

Saying that, I took a mouthful of alcohol from Gozoh-san.

This was another of this village's charms: being able to get advice from senior adventurers.

And then another guest arrived in the onsen.

"Nn? There were people here?"

"Oh? Kehma! Come on in, we were just talking about you!"

"V-village chief!"

The person who came in was the village chief. He doesn't have much muscle at all... is he really an adventurer? You'd normally need to have at least enough muscle to carry the heavy equipment right?

"Well, first off how about a cup to drink? Have some." "Refused. I don't drink much alcohol."

The village chief refused Gozoh-san's alcohol arrogantly. He's probably the only person in the whole village that could do something like that. Other people would just gladly drink it, since the alcohol Gozoh-san gets tastes crazy delicious.

"Tch, no fun. Well it's all good. Kehma, wanna go golem hunting with this guy here next time?"

"Eh!?"

A sudden invitation. I-is this my chance to earn twenty-five silver a day too!?

"Nope, sounds troublesome. I just went with Gozoh day before yesterday yeah? Gozoh, you're not saying you already used it all right?"

"Drinking money runs out fast! Rather, our gracious golems make such a rare hunting ground, there's still not many people here."

"That so... so there'll be more people coming...? I'm going to have more village chief stuff to do, eh. I'm tired."

H-huh? What about my twenty-five silver? It's already gone? Haah...

"E-excuse me. V-village chief? I didn't know that you were an adventurer." "Huh? Yeah, D-Rank for now."

"Oh, we're the same rank! ... You don't look like a vanguard though?"

"Yeah, I'm a rear guard. Kuro's the vanguard."

Kuro is... Ah! Kuro-chan! Right, she's the village chief's party member huh. Kuro-chan is a girl, yet she has an unthinkable name like Meat, but... she's strong as heck. There've been a lot of adventurers that have suffered from underestimating her due to her physique in the mock battles. I also lost to her. It feels like having so much strength despite that appearance is foul play...

"What kind of magic do you use? Ah, you don't need to tell me if you can't." "Sorry, it's a secret."

The village chief got up immediately after saying that. So cool. Apparently, he just came to warm himself up a bit before heading to bed... It's still lunch time though? Eh, he's already going to sleep? What a slacker.

"Haah, still, for the village chief to be that Kuro-chan's party member... huh? Then that means the Goshujin-sama Kuro-chan's always talking about, no way...?"

"Aye, it's Kehma. Kuro fawns over him."

"... Umm, with Kuro-chan's name and her using [Goshujin-sama]... uhh?"

"Yanmo... people's fetishes are best left alone."

Uwaaah, I won't say anything.

Ah, on the topic of fetishes, I love navels you know? They're so cute and adorable! Gozoh-san feels like he'd like someone who drinks alcohol... Ahh, Roppu-san huh. Definitely.

So after warming myself up enough in the onsen with all that, I decided to eat some lunch. Kinue-san's handmade onigiri are great.

I headed to the dining room. I wonder if Kinue-san's there~?

"Kinue-san~"

"Nn? Kinue-san has the night shift today you know?"

The one to say that was the silvery-haired beauty, Rei-chan.

Her style's good too. Rather, why are there so many bride candidates for me here?

"Ah, really? Well, I'm happy I could see Rei-chan though."

"Today's lunch is onigiri. Five copper coins."

"Your silvery hair's beautiful today too. I'll take an onigiri, as well as one of your smiling faces."

"A smile is five copper, making eleven copper in total."

"Ah, there's a charge... Huh? Isn't eleven a bit over? It's ten right?"

"Eh? Ah... it's a special service just for guests though?"

"Got it, I'll pay!"

Fuuu—a special service just for me...!? Now I feel bad.

I paid Rei-chan the eleven copper.

"Here is your onigiri... ehe!"

Oufu—! What a great smile! I want to marry you!

Her gentle smile was like the sun!

Come to think of it, even though there was a crazy amount of salt here and there in the onigiri made by Rei-chan, it was a mysteriously edible onigiri. It's definitely edible because it's jam-packed with love!

"Fufu, that's a good smile. How about it, wanna have a meal with me tonight?"

"Would you treat me to an S-Rank meal? You just have to get the meal ticket, ehe!"

As expected, five gold's a bit much! Fufu, she's just shy. I know that it's not like she seriously hates me. Because it's like that you know? If she really didn't want to, she wouldn't have given me a condition. In other words, she'll marry me if I can do that.

My my, I'm so popular.

The onigiri for lunch are every-day ordinary onigiri. There's something black used to hold it... something from Pavuera, I think it's called seaweed? Well, it's not bad at all. It tastes like Rei-chan's love.

Now then, lunch is done so what now...? Ah, come to think of it, it's about time for the rat race huh? Yep, I got the time so let's go check it out! Think it's time I headed to the game room. Entrance is free. Just watching the rats racing is fun by itself.

"Oh, Ian huh? So you were here?"

"Nn? Yanmo, you came too?"

My partner, Ian. There's a betting note in his hand... ah, feels like he just lost.

"Did you win?"

"I'll get it back on the next race."

Yep, looks like he's going to be on a losing streak... so that means if I bet against Ian, I'll win?

"Who did you bet on?"

"Ah, I bet on two: Oranihasanpo and Aonotenteki." [1]

"Then I'll bet on another one... oi oi, wasn't Onsoku your favorite? Why didn't you buy one for it?"

"Because this is the second time Onsoku's going today. It should be fatigued from it's first race."

I don't think it'll be like that. Well, I bet five copper on Onsoku.

As a result, Oranihasanpo stopped just three steps away from the goal and Aonotenteki started running back towards the starting line for some reason.

The one to win was Onsoku. It walked leisurely the whole way, but it dashed forward the instant Oranihasanpo stopped in front of the goal line, reaching the goal with momentum enough to practically roll in.

Moreover, while on the topic, Bibibi was sleeping at the starting line.

... My five copper turned into seven. Yep, today feels like a good day, lets go all in!

*

Hmm, today's weather is great (escaping from reality).

No, that's it yeah? I thought that I should do it. The omens were good. I also won the bet I put on Elekimouse after that, but the ones after one that were no good. I wasted all of the money I had on me.

Man, I should've realized it'd be bad when I saw Ichika in her gambling outfit.

"... Let's end our holiday today and go after another iron golem tomorrow." "Un... ahh, stopping now's so disappointing...!"

Haah, I sighed while heading to eat dinner. Since there's the emergency wheat rations, I'm able to make do with a single copper to get some bread.

When I went into the dining room as it turned night, my beloved Kinue-san was there.

Kinue-san's pale green gentle aura is seriously fairy-like. Kinue-san's just

someone where everyone winds up adding a [-san] to her name.

"Oh my, welcome... do you want another loaf of bread? Nanmo-san."

"Ahahah, I'm embarrassed..."

Kinue-san actually remembered my name.

After all, Kinue-san is...

Ah, I just remembered the ring I'd wound up putting in my pocket.

"Right, Kinue-san. I have a present for you."

"Oh, what is it?"

"I-it's this ring!"

"Oh my, it's wonderful... Nn, how about I give you some bacon to thank you for the gift?"

Saying that, Kinue-san sliced bread that she'd made at some point without me noticing and put a slice of bacon in it.

... Kinue-san, you really are a spirit, a pure existence...!

This service must be proof of our engagement!

"Um, if you could, could you show me you wearing the ring?"

"Fufu, I'm working right now so just this once alright?"

Saying that, Kinue-san took the ring that I bought and put it onto the forefinger on her left hand, showing it to me. She moved it right after since she was working though.

... ... Yep, I don't need to wager bets on the rat race. Buying accessories is so much better...

"Well then, please order a proper meal next time, okay?"

"Y-yes!"

I took the bread with a slice of bacon in it and returned home in good spirits. She called my name and made me dinner (bread). It's not an exaggeration to say that we're already married, right?

"Maaan, Kinue-san really is a good person. She even gave me some free cheese."

"lan, what you're getting is just my extras, you should thank me!"

"Yeah yeah, how about you hurry up and sleep? We're hunting golems

tomorrow."

I plopped down onto my futon.

Magic stones from golems are purchased at a good price too, but iron golems are really just better...

Thinking about when my next day off would be, I fell asleep.

Chapter 149 - Extra: What Uzoh and Muzoh Are Doing Now

Lake Izamu is in a cold area. There is a dungeon on the lake's solitary island that can only be accessed during the winter when the lake is frozen over, [Ice Mirror Labyrinth].

This dungeon also had talks of magic swords being easy to acquire in it, so it was a pretty popular dungeon.

There were currently a pair of adventurers advancing their exploration through its mysterious corridors while paying careful attention to their surroundings.

"Hmm..."

"What now, Uzoh?"

"Well, doesn't look like we've found a magic sword, Muzoh."

"... Well, maybe it'll appear on its own if we keep going?"

The Uzoh Muzoh duo were looking for a magic sword to pay back the person who saved their lives.

Although they were the ones to set the one year deadline, they hadn't found a magic sword yet.

They were also saving up, but they didn't have enough to buy a magic sword yet either.

"Well, Kehma-san said that we shouldn't overwork ourselves."

"[Return the magic sword even if it takes two years, just don't do something unreasonable and get yourselves killed] was it? That message we got through the guild... Seriously, Kehma-san's on another level, Uzoh."

"I want to work harder and pay him back! Muzoh!"

"Rather, Uzoh. Seems Kehma-san's turned into a village chief?"

"Eh, he stopped being an adventurer!? I didn't hear that, Muzoh!"

"No. He's still an adventurer. At the usual dungeon... [Cave of Desires] yeah? They set up a village around it... ah."

He easily brushed aside a snowball-looking monster that started attacking him.

It was a monster that appeared often in this dungeon, a snowball. They were very weak alone, but they turn into pretty troublesome enemies when they group up into a snowman.

"But man, that dungeon seems to have turned into a pretty good one, Uzoh." "Really? Muzoh."

"Like there's iron golems popping up there now. Magic swords too."

"... If magic swords are showing up there, shouldn't we head back to [Cave of Desires]? Muzoh."

"Could we show our faces to him without a magic sword? Uzoh."

"Nope! Stupid question, Muzoh!"

Strolling through the ice labyrinth, Uzoh and Muzoh searched for a treasure chest. They exterminated several kinds of cold-type monsters that appeared on their way, like ice goblins, blue lizards, and cold wolves. They weren't a pair of C-Ranks just for show.

They were on their guard for traps, but this dungeon didn't have many of them. The worst of it was what they were standing on was slippery due to ice, but it wasn't much of a problem since they wore spikes.

And so, on the second day of their exploration inside [Ice Mirror Labyrinth], they finally came across a treasure chest. In two days, just one. There were so many parties diving into this particular dungeon that even though they'd just found a single chest, they were the lucky ones.

"... This is a pretty normal pace ain't it, Muzoh."

"Even though we saw a lot of treasure chests when we first dove into [Cave of Desires]..."

There was also the inn stuff, so [Cave of Desires] was incomparable to other dungeons in various ways. That's what Uzoh felt.

"So, what's in it?"

"Give me a sec... Yep, no traps. Uzoh, you wanna check it out too?"

"Yeah. Excuse me from getting locked up in a room again, Muzoh."

After their time spent being trapped in the [Magic Sword Test Room], they'd both been studying traps to deepen their understanding of them. As they'd had to live through what it felt like to almost lose their lives while diving into a

dungeon, not just Muzoh, but Uzoh also had enough scouting skills now to work as one.

After taking some time to carefully check whether or not it was trapped, they took a bit of a distance away and used a pole to open the treasure chest.

... It appeared as though there really wasn't a trap.

"... So, what's in it?"

"Let's see... eh, there's no sword. A magic tool? Uzoh, you wanna check it out?"

Muzoh passed the magic tool in his hand to Uzoh.

It was shaped very closely to a baseball. He couldn't figure out its use, but there was a spot to put a magic stone in, so he knew immediately that it was a magic tool.

It was probably an ice-producing magic tool as those appeared in this dungeon quite often. If so, they'd make a decent amount of money by selling it.

"Hmm? What kind of magic tool is this? Maybe we could sell it to buy a magic sword?"

"Best thing to do would be to get the guild to appraise it. Well, how about we stop here this time? Uzoh."

"Yeah, even without the magic tool we've picked up a lot of monster materials on the way, so let's head back."

Uzoh and Muzoh decided to head back. It was even colder than they'd thought it would be, so they wanted to hurry up and get back to town to eat some warm soup.

That in mind, they retraced their path at a quick pace.

Chapter 150 - Extra: The Winter Demon

Winter. The frozen season where snow would accumulate.

To save on heating fees, I opened up the onsen to villagers free of charge.

I planned on collecting money through tax one of these days of course, but for now I'll just pardon them with their DP.

It's that cold winter right now, but my room's insulation is excellent. While we're at it, it's tatami-mat style.

I decided that the tatami I was lying down were excavated from the dungeon.

They were 300 DP each. Fu fu fu, they're like small luxuries.

And I have a trap on my tatami mats! Shoes are banned! You have to take off shoes to enter their domain... kukuku, in other words, I can look at undressed feet as much as I want!

Well, the only ones that come into my room are Rokuko and Meat though. My eyes chase legs even though I'm not a lolicon... what an unfortunate tale.

Alright, let's think about something else. When I build the employees' lounge, I'll fill it with tatami mats. That way, it should be easy to get the employees to enter a certain thing.

The winter demon, Kotatsu-sama. [1]

"Did you make this, master?"

"Should I clean this place up?"

"I helped make it too".... like the dial that can be used to adjust the heat by changing the thickness of the magic formation's lines... another great idea that will revolutionize everything"... aaah warm" [2]

The Kotatsu-sama is a square-type table that can fit four people. Nerune got in from the opposite side I got in at.

Since I made it together with Nerune, we got to test out Kotatsu-sama's magic before the other employees and lead the charge. Her simple brown socks are pretty good.

"... I'll take this spot. Excuse me, master."

"I'll be joining too. It's not meal time right now after all."

Rei and Kinue-san took off their shoes and got onto the tatami mat. Rei's wearing black stockings. Kinue-san moved to sit next to me while wearing green socks, matching her overall green coloring. It wasn't a color that most people would go for, but since it was an overall unified color she scores top points. They wound up all getting covered by Kotatsu-sama though.

... Crap! I can't appreciate them now though!?

Was the kotatsu a failure...? I needed it to make a Japanese-styled room though. 'Kotatsu-sama', tch.

"Ooh, it's warm..."

"It's a comfortable temperature, isn't it?"

"Fufufu, it was hard getting the temperature to be just right~"

"Aah, yeah... haaah, well, that's good."

There's no helping me not being able to see them, so I sighed in resignation. Whatever, even if it's just a kotatsu, the results are alright.

Just then, something touched my foot.

What...?

"Hyan—!?"

... it was Rei's foot. Looks like she extended her legs and wound up touching my foot.

"S-sorry master. I hit your foot."

"Don't worry, that's part of a kotatsu's charm...!"

"So you are supposed to stretch out under a kotatsu? Then I'll do it too... ah. Sorry."

"No no, don't hold back, Kinue-san. The area under Kotatsu-sama is like international waters."

T-this... might be something amazing. As expected of Kotatsu-sama. A brilliant 180 degree turn!

"Ah, Kehma! I heard! You made something new again!?"

"Nn? Ah, Rokuko. Come join us—-ah, we're already taking the four spots..."

"Aw... well, I'll sit next to you then."

Saying that, Rokuko forcibly pushed her way into sitting beside me.

"Oi. It's cramped."

"It's fine, you and me can share right?"

"Yeah, partner in body and mind... Maybe I should've made it a bit bigger?"

I made it a square-type this time, but maybe it's be better making a rectangular one? Or maybe I could make a huge one that you can lay under and just have your head pop out of?

Well, like that, Rokuko entered Kotatsu-sama and overfilled it.

"Ooh, so warm... but all of your feet are getting in the way, get out."

"Eeh", don't wanna". I don't want to leave the warmth"

"That's right, I can't yield this warmth..."

"Besides, isn't it alright Rokuko-sama? If we left, wouldn't there be a little too much space?"

"... Oh. This is best after all."

The monsters and dungeon core have a good relationship.

... Did Kotatsu-sama's magic just invalidate the dungeon core's order? I don't remember making such a scary magic tool though?

They were hesitant over leaving the kotatsu for their shifts after that, so I had to give the employees strict commands to keep being punctual with their work hours.

With those various things and while the slightly sweaty Rokuko stuck close to me, I fully enjoyed Kotatsu-sama.